



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

16 SEP 2006

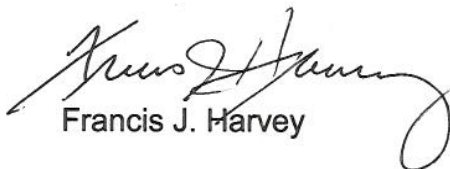
MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Celebration of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program During National Disability Employment Awareness Month

1. October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month. This is the perfect time to celebrate the U.S. Army's JWOD Program, "JWOD Works for America." Government purchase card users and acquisition personnel can help improve the lives of those who are blind or severely disabled by buying supplies and services furnished by nonprofit agencies that employ people who are blind or who have severe disabilities and by identifying more contracting opportunities suitable for the JWOD Program. People with disabilities desire to be productive and they produce services and supplies that meet the U.S. Army's mission needs in a timely and cost-effective manner. Supporting the program is good for the U.S. Army and our Nation. I encourage the entire U.S. Army community to participate in the JWOD Program by purchasing the JWOD produced supplies and services and by identifying new opportunities that are suitable for performance by a JWOD-sponsored nonprofit agency.

2. I am especially proud of the Army's efforts to provide employment and training opportunities for people with severe disabilities through our support of the JWOD Program. Under the JWOD Program, supplies and services purchased by the U.S. Army and other Federal agencies currently generate jobs for approximately 48,000 Americans who are blind or have severe disabilities. The program provides employment opportunities for a population that has a 70 percent unemployment rate. I encourage you to include this message as part of an overall awareness campaign during the month of October.

3. You can learn more about the important role you can play in this program at www.jwod.gov or contact your local JWOD liaison at the contracting office on your local installation. Thank you for making a special effort to show your support of the JWOD Program during National Disability Employment Awareness Month, October 2006, JWOD Works for America!


Francis J. Harvey

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